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tains"; *Agelaius phæniceus sonoriensis*, "Northwestern Mexico and Lower Colorado Valley, in Southern California and Arizona; south to Mazatlan"; *Agelaius phæniceus bryanti*, "Bahamas and Southern Florida (Miami, Key West, etc.)"; *Pinicola enucleator kadiaka*, "Kodiak to Sitka, Alaska," and "probably southward to higher Sierra Nevada of California"; *Carpodacus mexicanus* (*frontalis* in the text, p. 291) *ruberrimus* (provisionally separated) Lower California; *Plectrophenax nivalis towensendi*, "Prybilof Islands, Alaska, and Commander Islands, Kamtschatka"; *Passerina versicolor pulchra*, "Lower California and Western Mexico"; *Lanius ludovicianus gambeli*, "California, especially coast district"; *Phalacroptilus nuttalli californicus* (provisionally separated), Northern California; *Parus stoneyi*, Northwestern Alaska.

Old forms rejected from the 'Check-List' but here reinstated are *Cyanocitta stelleri annectens* Bd., *Guiraca cærulea eurhyncha* Cs., *Progne cryptoleuca* Bd., *Vireo gilvus swainsoni* Bd., and *Columbigallina passerina pallescens* Bd. The two excluded are *Carpodacus frontalis rhodocolpus* (now believed to be merely an individual color-phase), and *Peucaea arizonæ* Ridgw. = *P. mexicanus* (Lawr.).

Colinus virginianus cubanensis is accredited to "Cuba and Southwestern Florida," and is hence enumerated as North American.

A copious and carefully prepared index closes the volume, which must long reflect honor upon its author.—J. A. A.

Olphe-Galliard's Ornithology of Western Europe.*—In this work the veteran French ornithologist deposits the results of the labors and studies of a long and useful life. The plan is one of considerable magnitude, inasmuch as he contemplates giving not only full descriptions, synonymies, and biographies of all the species inhabiting Southwestern Europe (embracing Portugal and Spain, with the Azores and the Balears, France, French Switzerland, all the country to the west of the Rhine, and the English Channel Islands) but also such species as are nearly related to, or may be easily confounded with, the birds inhabiting the region particularly treated of. In this way the account of several genera has grown into monographs which will be found to contain material useful also to other ornithologists than those who are most directly interested in the particular ornis referred to.

The work will be issued in 40 parts, or fascicules, each comprising one or more groups or families, and each one is separately paged. This is certainly a great drawback, but was necessary in order to secure a speedy publication, as the parts are issued immediately after having been finished

* Contributions à la Faune Ornithologique de l'Europe Occidentale — Recueil comprenant les espèces d'oiseaux qui se reproduisent dans cette région | ou qui s'y montrent régulièrement de passage | augmenté de la description des principales espèces exotiques | les plus voisines des indigènes | ou susceptibles d'être confondues avec elles | ainsi que l'énumération des races domestiques | Par Léon Olphe-Galliard.—8°

by the author irrespective of their place in the system. On the other hand, the arrangement is convenient to those who only want to purchase some of the monographs, as each fascicule is sold separately.

In our days of systematic uncertainty it is perhaps not to be wondered at that Mr. Olphe-Galliard still in the main adheres to the "natural system" which he proposed just thirty years ago, in pre-Darwinian times. It commences with the swimmers, runs through waders, birds of prey, Scansores, and Passeres, to Pigeons and game birds, and ends with the Ostriches, the object being to establish a lineal system which would represent the birds as forming a continuous chain between the "lower veterebrates" and the mammals.

American ornithologists will note with satisfaction that Mr. Olphe-Galliard has selected the year 1758 for his starting point in regard to the nomenclature, and that he declares for a strict adherence to the law of priority. We remark, however, that he adopts generic names previously applied in another class of animals, a course opposite to most previous codes of nomenclature, and also to Canon XXXIII, A. O. U. Code. Nor is the law of priority always respected as it ought to be. For instance, he accepts *Clivicola* of Forster as the older name, but refuses to recognize the same author's genera *Hirundo* and *Chelidon*, though their status in regard to Boie's subsequent appellations is exactly the same as that of *Clivicola*.

Want of space prevents us from entering into a detailed review, which may be reserved until the whole work is concluded. That the latest sources have not always been accessible to the author is hardly to be criticized when we know that the work has been prepared in a small provincial town far from the great libraries and museums. On the other hand, it is but just to mention that the author's great familiarity with foreign languages and literature is shown to great advantage throughout the book, and is the more to be appreciated since it is of so rare occurrence among the French ornithologists.

France has contributed very little to European ornithology during recent years, and the present work is really the only larger contribution since the publication of Degland and Gerbe's 'Ornithologie Européenne' twenty years ago.

The present work appears to be published entirely at the expense of the author, and its completion, therefore, depends upon the encouragement of the ornithological public expressed in numerous subscriptions, of which there ought to be no lack, as the price is very reasonable. The following fascicules have come to hand: I, Brevipennes (1884); V, Cygnidæ, and XXXIII, Ploceidæ (genus *Passer*!) (1885); XXXVII-XL, Gallinæ, and Cursores (1886); XXII, Brevipedes (1887).—L. S.

Minor Ornithological Publications.—'Forest and Stream,' Vols. XXVI and XXVII, contains the following (Nos. 1127-1199):—

1127. *Winter Snipe in Colorado.* By R. V. R. S. *Forest and Stream*, Vol. XXVI, No. 1, Jan. 26, 1886, p. 5.—Wilson's Snipe reported as occurring about warm spring holes in the coldest winter weather.